



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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COUNTY BOARD CHAIRWOMAN

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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD TO LEAD REVIEW OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROPOSAL**

Board Chairwoman, Committee Chair of Finance, Personnel and Audit  
remind County Executive of the importance of collaboration

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Board Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic released the following statement regarding the parks patrol and 911 response proposal from Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett:

“The Board has a strong record of prioritizing public safety as demonstrated by its budget actions, including the restoration of \$1.5 million for targeted park patrols and \$1.5 million Emergency Medical Services.

While the County Executive claims this proposal is a good one and that we should all agree with his ideas, the County Board and the public have not had a chance to review it and to ensure that the plan does not diminish public safety or leave taxpayers holding the bag.

As supporters of public safety and custodians of public resources, the Board will now work with law enforcement, including the Sheriff’s Office, as well as the Comptroller to ensure the efficacy of this proposal. We will ask the Comptroller to analyze the plan and to provide us with an independent analysis and accurate information on the fiscal implication to the County.

The Board looks forward to robust discussion of this proposal during budget deliberations as we invite the most important stakeholders to the table: the public. We certainly hope today’s media announcement does not leave anyone with the impression that this proposal is a done deal.”

Milwaukee County Board Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., member and former Chair of the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services and Co-Chair of the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, released the following statement regarding the parks patrol and 911 response proposal from Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett:

“First and foremost, we need to assess the human impact and the potential for deputy job loss.

I question if this is true collaboration when policy-makers are left out. I would like to see County Executive Abele take a page from Mayor Barrett’s book on building consensus.

It's become apparent that Mayor Barrett talked to Aldermen about this proposal, while County Executive Abele chose to leave Supervisors in the cold.

Also, I'm very interested in hearing the Sheriff's reaction is to this proposal. Clearly, he's not been included in any of these discussions. Is this proposal a further reflection of the County Executive's idea of collaboration and cooperation?"

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